GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3246
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
RESTRICTION ON INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether internet service providers provide connectivity to non-registered call centres and BPO centres as reported in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated March 4, 2007;

(b) if so, whether the Government has recently put some restrictions on the internet service providers without any prior notice;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of call centres / BPO centres affected by such restrictions and the number of persons who became unemployed as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to protect the interests of such employees in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (c) It has been reported that illegal gray market operations have been operating in garb of call centres / OSPs. Such gray market operators obtained telecom resources from authorized telecom service providers including Internet Service Providers (ISPs). In order to curb such gray market operations, Government issued directions to ISPs to provide internet connectivity only to registered call centres / OSPs for their operations.

(d) The directions given to ISPs are meant only for unauthorized call centres / BOP centres and the details regarding number of such centers and their employees are not compiled in the Department.

(e) It is the endeavor of the Government to provide registration to call centres as and when they apply.